

Message Text

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ORIGIN L-02

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
INFO SECDEF/GENERAL COUNSEL
USCINCEUR
CINCUSAREUR
DA/IJAG
CDR NATO/SHAPE SPTGP

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MORG, CFED, BE

SUBJECT: TAXATION DIFFICULTIES WITH BELGIAN GOVERNMENT

REF: BRUSSELS 3934

1. FOLLOWING COMMENTS ARE KEYED TO DESIGNATED PARAGRAPHS
REFTEL: PARA 2(A) WE REALIZE THAT BELGIAN GOVERNMENT'S
POSITION MAY BE WIDER THAN TVA ADMINISTRATION. HOWEVER,
BY UTILIZING THIS FICTION WE GIVE BELGIANS A WAY OUT OF
PREVIOUS POSITIONS SHOULD THEY BEGIN LOOKING FOR ONE.
THEREFORE, ON THIS POINT WE PREFER NOTE REMAIN AS IT IS.
PARA 2(B) EMBASSY SHOULD INSERT FOLLOWING NEW PARENTHESIS
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TICAL SENTENCE AFTER FIRST SENTENCE OF SECOND PARAGRAPH

OF NOTE, "(20 TO 25 BACHELOR ENLISTED APARTMENTS ARE
PROJECTED FOR THE MONS AREA)". PARA 2(G) WE PURPOSELY
AVOIDED ADDRESSING QUESTION OF DEFINITION OF MILITARY
FORCES BECAUSE OF FACTUAL AND LEGAL COMPLEXITIES. WE
FAVOR AWAITING MORE DEFINITIVE GOB ARGUMENTATION ON THIS
POINT BEFORE DEVELOPING U.S. REPLY. PARA 2(D) WE CONCUR
ELIMINATION REFERENCES IN NOTE TO AMBASSADOR VERWILGHEN.
PARA 2(E) DEPARTMENT BELIEVES RESOLUTION OF TAX RELIEF
AGREEMENT ISSUE SHOULD NOT BE POSTPONED. WHAT IS INVOLVED

IS SANCTITY OF INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS AND POSSIBLE
APPLICATION OF BELGIAN TAXES OVER WHOLE RANGE OF U.S.
ACTIVITIES IN BELGIUM, INCLUDING LOC. PREFER THEREFORE
TO RETAIN INVITATION FOR BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS IN
PENULTIMATE PARAGRAPH OF NOTE.

KISSINGER

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